news FROM Dun & Bradstreet
a company of The Dun & Bradstreet Corporation
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FOR RELEASE
Sept. 4, 1980
Building Permits
P-21 No. 11

9/11/80 C 3150-7 D

BUILDING PERMITS IN 200 LARGEST CITIES FALL DESPITE A HUGE NEW YORK INCREASE

NEW YORK, September 4 - - Permits issued builders in the 200 largest cities fell 13.9 per cent in November, to $2,495,786,359 from the prior month's $2,899,533,662 level, despite a surge in New York, reports Dun & Bradstreet. While this was the largest monthly drop in almost a year and a half, an increase of 21.7 per cent was still registered (due mostly from New York) over November 1978's volume of $2,050,242,106.

In the 199 cities outside New York, November's permits registered a 24.5 percentage point fall-off from October, $2,153,806,564 versus $2,853,261,075. Sizeable drops in San Francisco, especially, and Phoenix, Austin, San Diego, and Arlington (Texas) contributed to this decline while partly offsetting gains occurred in Philadelphia, Saint Louis, and Virginia Beach. On a year-to-year basis, however, the 199 cities maintained a 6.3 per cent lead over November 1978 when permits totaled $2,027,015,992.

Contrary to the drop between October and November seen in the 200 cities, plans filed by builders in New York rocketed in November to $341,979,795 from $46,272,587 a month earlier--the largest volume since December 1969. Plans for three new Manhattan office buildings largely accounted for New York's surge over November 1978's $23,226,114 volume.

The aggregate dollar volume of building permits in the 200 largest cities for the first eleven months of 1979 kept a 17.6 percentage point margin over the like period in 1978, $27,831,029,638 compared to $23,656,912,671. Of the twenty-five leading cities in terms of dollar volume, Boston showed the largest percentage increase, 95.9, while San Antonio, New York, and Seattle showed better than 50 per cent increments in eleven-months totals.

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2. NOVEMBER BUILDING PERMIT VALUES

MONTHLY TOTAL OF BUILDING PERMITS IN 200 LARGEST CITIES
1976 - 1979

	1979	1978	1977	1976
January...	$ 1,746,778,126	$ 1,555,200,317	$ 1,155,317,475	$ 1,094,555,899
February..	1,717,789,184	1,566,122,444	1,346,506,159	1,017,644,026
March.....	2,476,939,618	2,181,040,038	1,831,077,441	1,298,836,652
April.....	2,451,179,009	1,970,502,609	1,670,684,353	1,418,036,240
May.....	2,777,967,467	2,184,409,484	1,848,109,958	1,359,299,738
June.....	2,773,160 539	3,175,380,926	2,112,508,861	1,513,262,913
July.....	2,680,322,050	2,374,622,719	1,786,583,619	1,391,463,324
August....	2,986,549,135	2,096,290,105	1,983,733.131	1,622,806,467
September.	2,825,024,489	2,197,718,509	1,720,913,053	1,456,079,039
October...	2,899,533,662	2,305,383,414	1,802,807,510	1,311,459,333
Novebmer..	2,495,786,359	2,050,242,106	1,827,177,094	1,327,938,877
December..		1,809,134,416	1,908,713,368	1,387,900,565
Total	$	$25,466,047,087	$20,994,132,022	$16,199,283,073

R - Revised

Of the 200 cities included in this series the twenty-five with the largest building permit values for the first eleven months of 1979 were:

(Millions of Dollars)

		Eleven Months 1979	%Change Previous Year
1.	Houston Texas	1977.0	+ 30.5
2.	Los Angeles, California	1499.6	+ 18.1
3.	New York, New York	1063.1	+ 61.9
4.	Dallas, Texas	910.5	+ 19.2
5.	Chicago, Illinois	707.0	+ 20.6
6.	San Diego, California	667.1	+ 1.6
7.	Phoenix, Arizona	627.3	+ 24.6
8.	San Francisco, California	593.0	+ 12.9
9.	Honolulu, Hawaii	490.1	+ 34.6
10.	Seattle, Washington	451.2	+ 64.5
11.	San Jose, California	423.8	+ 30.9
12.	Austin, Texas	418.4	+ 27.7
13.	Atlanta, Georgia	387.8	+ 15.7
14.	Columbus, Ohio	345.2	- 18.7
15.	Arlington, Texas	341.1	+ 29.6
16.	San Antonio, Texas	337.7	+ 54.3
17.	Philadelphia, Pennsylvania	318.2	+ 4.6
18.	Fort Worth, Texas	315.9	+ 22.0
19.	Boston, Massachusetts	305.0	+ 95.9
20.	Denver, Colorado	302.5	+ 17.7
21.	Oklahoma City, Okalhoma	301.7	+ 13.1
22.	Indianapolis, Indiana	296.9	- 40.6
23.	Albuquerque, New Mexico	289.8	+ 10.4
24.	Virginia Beach, Virginia	284.2	+ 20.3
25.	Tulsa, Oklahoma	262.6	- 35.3

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THE FOLLOWING TABLE GIVES MONTHLY BUILDING PERMIT VALUES FOR THE 200 LARGEST CITIES BY POPULATION AS RECORDED IN THE 1970 CENSUS. THE FIGURES REPRESENT ESTIMATED BUILDING COSTS UNDER PERMITS ISSUED TO PRESPECTIVE BUILDERS WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS FOR THE CITIES ENUMERATED. THE INCLUDE NEW RESIDENTIAL AND NON-RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS, AS WELL AS ADDITIONS, ALTERATIONS AND REPAIRS. LAND COSTS ARE NOT INCLUDED. THE DATA ARE COMPILED FROM REPORTS FURNISHED TO DUN & BRADSTREET BY THE BUILDING DEPARTMENTS OF THE VARIOUS CITIES.

RANK BY $1/E		NOVEMBER 1975	ELEVEN MONTHS 1975	ELEVEN MONTHS 1974
1.	NEW YORK, NEW YORK*			
	MANHATTAN	314,486,100	645,532,414	369,091,664
	BRONX	4,953,720	83,081,018	65,046,465
	BROOKLYN	10,324,132	126,857,561	100,692,003
	QUEENS	4,056,820	107,757,269	52,395,578
	RICHMOND	7,759,023	97,894,759	69,341,840
	TOTAL NEW YORK CITY	341,979,795	1,063,123,091	656,607,550
2.	CHICAGO, ILLINOIS	56,903,248	703,005,162	586,345,716
3.	LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA	145,015,983	1,499,547,297	1,266,922,526
4.	PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA	49,617,189	319,203,506	304,302,507
5.	DETROIT, MICHIGAN	23,077,163	193,024,705	148,531,276
6.	HOUSTON, TEXAS	131,650,362	1,977,010,575	1,514,935,436
7.	BALTIMORE, MARYLAND	37,006,415	220,012,015	266,084,349
8.	DALLAS, TEXAS	85,001,251	910,458,010	763,595,008
9.	WASHINGTON, D.C.	31,444,448	267,383,539	248,423,363
10.	CLEVELAND, OHIO	5,362,750	102,867,814	110,941,125
11.	INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA	15,070,752	206,654,703	499,676,096
12.	MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN	13,215,104	140,021,514	130,712,163
13.	SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA	45,085,623	693,012,940	525,345,190
14.	SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA	54,000,555	667,148,577	656,693,519
15.	SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS	26,435,506	337,695,946	211,859,466
16.	BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS	10,103,000	304,964,257	155,725,700
17.	MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE	22,342,201	196,407,006	174,392,031
18.	ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI	44,244,661	150,134,691	105,471,919
19.	NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA	18,977,092	261,359,765	180,119,772
20.	PHOENIX, ARIZONA	29,630,260	627,315,773	503,546,342
21.	COLUMBUS, OHIO	23,133,571	348,223,[illegible]	424,794,337
22.	SEATTLE, WASHINGTON	30,548,918	451,[illegible]33	274,246,356
23.	JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA	22,860,555	229,764,126	215,712,034
24.	PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA	2,509,865	108,064,260	91,601,424
25.	DENVER, COLORADO	15,280,170	302,444,[illegible]	256,961,240
26.	KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI	17,113,971	199,833,534	167,575,204
27.	ATLANTA, GEORGIA	15,977,770	367,[illegible]22,[illegible]	179,782,211
28.	BUFFALO, NEW YORK	1,157,921	27,432,645	42,719,952
29.	CINCINNATI, OHIO	17,983,142	219,113,943	132,677,241
30.	NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE	25,561,515	242,577,344	294,029,595
31.	SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA	31,351,049	425,[illegible]14,193	323,711,008
32.	MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA	12,040,653	220,579,596	199,742,[illegible]88
33.	FORT WORTH, TEXAS	16,010,574	315,929,386	259,056,311
34.	TOLEDO, OHIO	16,052,257	145,611,427	[illegible]88,486,[illegible]87
35.	PORTLAND, OREGON	14,779,665	217,091,571	218,765,170
36.	NEWARK, NEW JERSEY	3,501,596	76,675,[illegible]49	60,195,206
37.	OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA	11,925,534	301,719,294	266,737,416
38.	OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA	5,613,104	126,258,[illegible]20	129,457,403
39.	LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY	4,956,449	30,904,314	75,662,032
40.	LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA	12,789,935	109,516,217	73,485,867
41.	OMAHA, NEBRASKA	10,505,509	121,145,100	94,605,440
42.	MIAMI, FLORIDA	16,237,019	147,736,183	83,739,099
43.	TULSA, OKLAHOMA	16,720,000	262,631,472	406,173,709
44.	HONOLULU, HAWAII	45,563,480	490,135,694	364,047,365
45.	EL PASO, TEXAS	16,972,675	227,707,559	206,945,244
46.	ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA	14,843,330	139,098,702	104,486,947
47.	NORFOLK, VIRGINIA	3,046,748	67,048,991	43,638,147
48.	BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA	15,649,948	122,309,[illegible]78	118,489,671
49.	ROCHESTER, NEW YORK	1,035,237	35,399,033	30,770,939
50.	TAMPA, FLORIDA	8,291,540	93,824,755	90,631,566
51.	WICHITA, KANSAS	22,100,889	176,[illegible]16,058	116,262,944
52.	AKRON, OHIO	1,327,419	45,257,875	49,332,395
53.	TUCSON, ARIZONA	17,109,767	201,235,813	129,037,090
54.	JERSEY CITY, NEW JERSEY	7,029,074	27,330,953	6,133,725
55.	SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA	35,442,819	277,619,021	190,934,464
56.	AUSTIN, TEXAS	29,206,200	418,407,941	327,536,252
57.	RICHMOND, VIRGINIA	3,497,719	45,125,[illegible]97	49,888,559
58.	ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO	15,412,812	298,797,496	262,519,397
59.	DAYTON, OHIO	3,094,256	[illegible]3,651,963	38,765,911
60.	CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA	13,698,954	133,355,741	133,625,861
61.	ST. PETERSBURG, FLORIDA	5,738,040	94,147,133	69,361,305
62.	CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS	7,754,398	154,703,697	125,310,225
63.	YONKERS, NEW YORK	486,050	10,[illegible]59,431	16,781,066
64.	DES MOINES, IOWA	2,910,861	91,723,293	59,068,655
65.	GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN	3,023,675	65,159,513	51,890,654
66.	SYRACUSE, NEW YORK	480,430	20,564,424	23,045,723
67.	FLINT, MICHIGAN	7,903,771	48,766,435	49,293,904
68.	MOBILE, ALABAMA	9,569,709	102,330,405	75,239,418
69.	SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA	7,692,109	111,929,452	185,799,716
70.	WARREN, MICHIGAN	416,204	7,3[illegible]1,659	13,892,162
71.	PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND	1,968,250	27,278,935	29,533,650
72.	FORT WAYNE, INDIANA	8,534,171	79,574,923	83,509,610
73.	WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS	764,132	17,529,351	31,546,486
74.	SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH	30,162,276	180,007,231	91,605,408
75.	GARY INDIANA	11,261,164	31,989,472	11,421,316
76.	KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE	2,189,840	61,300,108	125,509,898
77.	MADISON, WISCONSIN	6,969,510	68,689,165	69,759,045
78.	VIRGINIA BEACH, VIRGINIA	54,372,472	284,125,379	236,225,113
79.	SPOKANE, WASHINGTON	9,742,555	154,624,955	110,782,935
80.	KANSAS CITY, KANSAS	5,068,440	57,483,901	66,217,606
81.	ANAHEIM, CALIFORNIA	14,400,329	165,074,327	154,829,543
82.	FRESNO, CALIFORNIA	7,944,982	191,389,949	189,538,958
83.	BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA	25,287,321	178,597,096	156,734,557
84.	SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS	3,045,440	52,219,465	16,720,534
85.	HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT	2,946,225	59,985,665	45,061,016
86.	SANTA ANA, CALIFORNIA	7,090,057	78,960,943	109,896,994
87.	BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT	929,375	16,850,711	14,723,553
88.	TACOMA, WASHINGTON	3,397,073	125,476,090	74,379,011
89.	COLUMBUS, GEORGIA	3,413,963	46,05[illegible]49	57,220,927
90.	JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI	3,2[illegible]1,769	76,592,146	93,699,278
91.	LINCOLN, NEBRASKA	3,997,358	72,588,586	73,301,991
92.	LUBBOCK, TEXAS	7,372,367	91,252,964	120,781,925
93.	ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS	2,999,200	47,516,077	35,293,055
94.	PATERSON, NEW JERSEY	659,569	12,[illegible]39,391	11,999,306
95.	GREENSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA	4,067,558	74,455,411	71,841,512
96.	RIVERSIDE, CALIFORNIA	13,094,958	90,[illegible]36,921	45,280,084
97.	YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO	368,119	12,601,526	13,237,078
98.	FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA	2,783,225	95,691,485	61,539,233
99.	EVANSVILLE, INDIANA	3,318,767	29,517,440	39,252,026
100.	NEWPORT NEWS, VIRGINIA	4,042,109	56,579,060	36,925,390
101.	HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA	4,027,301	56,[illegible]90,514	59,395,417
102.	NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT	1,482,340	18,[illegible]59,[illegible]23	21,029,601
103.	COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO	9,244,599	149,[illegible]28,704	199,073,390
104.	TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA	4,941,139	90,836,475	37,524,455
105.	MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA	6,229,600	87,501,300	92,013,100
106.	WINSTON-SALEM, NC, CAR	2,458,746	86,[illegible]80,121	74,422,911
107.	GLENDALE, CALIFORNIA	3,926,903	87,960,[illegible]71	66,271,154
108.	LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS	5,249,305	116,606,[illegible]11	85,661,360
109.	LANSING, MICHIGAN	5,[illegible]54,539	93,026,[illegible]45	57,076,811
110.	ERIE, PENNSYLVANIA	406,360	21,[illegible]45,449	14,572,455
111.	AMARILLO, TEXAS	6,929,372	73,515,429	106,661,339
112.	PEORIA, ILLINOIS	3,326,056	46,363,732	57,414,626
113.	LAS VEGAS, NEVADA	7,109,240	147,[illegible]29,235	156,753,216
114.	SOUTH BEND, INDIANA	3,483,039	45,083,[illegible]12	25,311,175
115.	TOPEKA, KANSAS	1,[illegible]4,[illegible]4	50,423,[illegible]99	39,566,409
116.	GARDEN GROVE, CALIFORNIA	962,550	42,126,555	56,151,679
117.	MACON, GEORGIA	2,429,530	62,[illegible]32,[illegible]41	55,825,230
118.	RALEIGH, NC, CAR	7,984,510	125,[illegible]92,151	116,200,909
119.	HAMPTON, VIRGINIA	5,903,152	43,256,[illegible]7	37,102,526
120.	SPRINGFIELD, MISSOURI	5,675,417	[illegible]2,365,199	77,568,345
121.	CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE	7,071,010	69,[illegible]34,256	80,569,301
122.	SAVANNAH, GEORGIA	6,493,460	52,052,350	49,175,884
123.	BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA	1,459,206	24,051,[illegible]24	21,347,421
124.	HUNTINGTON BEACH, CALIFORNIA	2,742,870	69,[illegible]13,596	110,517,728
125.	BEAUMONT, TEXAS	5,270,058	71,350,446	75,574,468
126.	ALBANY, NEW YORK	1,407,765	19,[illegible]19,[illegible]79	14,342,742
127.	COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA	1,[illegible]90,662	17,920,629	43,965,284
128.	PASADENA, CALIFORNIA	4,136,920	62,726,[illegible]79	55,265,737
129.	ELIZABETH, NEW JERSEY	234,360	5,[illegible]39,703	5,764,667
130.	INDEPENDENCE, MISSOURI	6,247,643	34,451,203	48,071,730
131.	PORTSMOUTH, VIRGINIA	631,730	24,767,262	21,250,235
132.	ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA	664,410	14,072,[illegible]56	57,619,426
133.	CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA	3,303,053	60,[illegible]50,489	63,434,084
134.	LIVONIA, MICHIGAN	10,945,163	100,227,201	69,332,992
135.	CANTON, OHIO	1,920,553	31,40[illegible]414	21,058,257
136.	ALLENTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA	1,913,030	21,319,729	23,374,406
137.	STAMFORD, CONNECTICUT	6,476,681	162,576,529	53,747,204
138.	LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY	10,367,473	130,153,267	155,513,130
139.	WATERBURY, CONNECTICUT	920,500	12,396,739	12,393,643
140.	HAMMOND, INDIANA	[illegible]2,517	29,912,496	14,468,336
141.	STOCKTON, CALIFORNIA	[illegible],429,796	174,327,[illegible]91	158,006,502
142.	HOLLYWOOD, FLORIDA	3,963,018	113,715,368	87,517,354
143.	TRENTON, NEW JERSEY	167,725	5,479,739	5,309,641
144.	SAN BERNARDINO, CALIFORNIA	5,267,497	79,406,811	78,082,524
145.	DEARBORN, MICHIGAN	7,405,128	97,625,555	47,253,759
146.	SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA	1,819,798	9,923,906	14,947,743
147.	CAMDEN, NEW JERSEY	5,000,865	5,301,844	17,419,528
148.	HIALEAH, FLORIDA	794,219	41,403,937	21,170,105
149.	NEW BEDFORD, MASSACHUSETTS	805,194	15,357,995	7,870,329
150.	FREMONT, CALIFORNIA	15,652,300	157,331,400	150,482,400
151.	DULUTH, MINNESOTA	1,737,420	25,812,221	26,251,649
152.	CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS	1,835,573	29,550,073	40,458,590
153.	PARMA, OHIO	775,450	27,333,700	17,984,955
154.	ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN	1,701,059	35,879,305	41,780,421
155.	ORLANDO, FLORIDA	4,349,745	73,751,711	50,861,674
156.	DAVENPORT, IOWA	4,981,159	80,[illegible]63,097	75,357,191
157.	WICHITA FALLS, TEXAS	7,426,992	128,603,132	41,365,435
158.	PUEBLO, COLORADO	1,353,544	32,100,983	35,120,971
159.	IRVING, TEXAS	15,311,399	104,143,041	71,726,979
160.	FALL RIVER, MASSACHUSETTS	10,469,950	16,490,124	3,898,921
161.	DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA	3,041,242	46,290,921	34,750,012
162.	SUNNYVALE, CALIFORNIA	10,950,463	105,496,265	115,292,433
163.	WACO, TEXAS	3,500,547	80,310,468	45,962,439
164.	RACINE, WISCONSIN	4,030,061	23,993,014	15,461,560
165.	LOWELL, MASSACHUSETTS	621,130	21,462,169	25,871,848
166.	HAYWARD, CALIFORNIA	8,758,932	90,583,261	68,316,590
167.	LAKEWOOD, COLORADO	4,536,441	65,602,198	64,937,798
168.	ROANOKE, VIRGINIA	10,737,904	33,474,157	24,457,409
169.	SAGINAW, MICHIGAN	399,068	10,854,873	19,516,897
170.	NORWALK, CALIFORNIA	1,347,960	8,071,430	15,418,730
171.	SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS	5,328,029	59,869,795	45,174,974
172.	UTICA, NEW YORK	393,162	7,851,109	9,076,575
173.	NEWTON, MASSACHUSETTS	2,047,143	14,625,195	16,542,139
174.	ARLINGTON, TEXAS	29,769,855	341,055,052	263,207,468
175.	DECATUR, ILLINOIS	1,825,588	26,104,355	45,643,797
176.	LYNN, MASSACHUSETTS	18,458,217	27,775,525	5,890,438
177.	INGLEWOOD, CALIFORNIA	1,364,337	17,[illegible]26,225	15,684,333
178.	ABILENE, TEXAS	6,398,154	59,761,329	84,347,770
179.	CHESAPEAKE, VIRGINIA	5,370,045	75,412,911	54,421,983
180.	PASADENA, TEXAS	522,903	9[illegible]41,363	62,957,609
181.	BROCKTON, MASSACHUSETTS	519,366	13,854,009	16,496,889
182.	BURBANK, CALIFORNIA	4,660,071	60,071,548	37,292,059
183.	SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS	462,092	5,024,877	5,582,711
184.	DOWNEY, CALIFORNIA	1,148,249	22,317,406	19,975,329
185.	SANTA MONICA, CALIFORNIA	6,629,329	146,075,267	64,733,445
186.	ST. CLAIR SHORES, MICHIGAN	467,836	5,242,303	4,473,580
187.	QUINCY, MASSACHUSETTS	600,707	12,452,373	9,029,683
188.	GREENBAY, WISCONSIN	1,818,894	55,634,411	39,303,143
189.	MANCHESTER, NEW HAMPSHIRE	1,902,476	32,50[illegible]065	34,266,321
190.	SANTA CLARA, CALIFORNIA	5,609,628	43,833,563	131,267,797
191.	READING, PENNSYLVANIA	363,534	6,917,004	12,558,113
192.	POMONA, CALIFORNIA	5,483,203	85,932,447	47,381,068
193.	MIAMI, FLORIDA	5,022,404	40,189,239	34,855,087
194.	WESTLAND, MICHIGAN	2,064,048	16,727,564	22,054,804
195.	SIOUX CITY, IOWA	1,361,904	25,930,227	20,196,362
196.	FULLERTON, CALIFORNIA	11,634,471	54,615,657	91,913,613
197.	NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK	753,900	13,755,675	55,160,356
198.	KALAMAZOO, MICHIGAN	475,490	31,210,339	31,902,893
199.	ROYAL OAK, MICHIGAN	285,950	9,993,570	8,335,950
200.	PONTIAC, MICHIGAN	405,261	48,029,121	12,213,455
TOTALS:	200 LARGEST CITIES LISTED ABOVE	2,495,786,359	27,831,029,638	23,656,912,671

P = Preliminary
R = Revised

news

Dun & Bradstreet

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Business Economics Division

99 CHURCH STREET, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10007
(212) 285-7747

FOR RELEASE:
Sept. 30, 1980

Building
Permits

P-21 No. 12

10/7/80
C 3150-7 U

BUILDING PERMITS IN 200 LARGEST CITIES AGAIN SHOW MONTHLY DECLINE BUT REMAIN AHEAD OF YEAR AGO

New York, September 30--For the second consecutive month, building permits in the 200 largest cities slipped in December to $2,184,572,996, some 12.5 per cent below the previous month's level of $2,495,786,359, reports Dun & Bradstreet. This dollar volume, the third smallest in all of 1979, still represented a 20.8 per cent advance over its year-earlier, December 1978, reading of $1,809,134,416.

Plans filed by builders in New York subsided very sharply, some 37.7 per cent, in December to $212,941,067 from their 11-year high of $341,979,795 a month earlier. Nonetheless, December's total was the city's second highest since August 1971 and signified almost a three-fold improvement over the $79,213,953 volume of December 1978.

Building permit values for the 199 cities outside New York decreased moderately in the last month of 1979, to $1,971,631,929, slowing 8.5 per cent from $2,153,806,564 a month before. While Hollywood (Florida), Miami, Phoenix, Oakland, and Honolulu posted substantial contrasting gains in December, Dallas, Philadelphia, and St. Louis shared heavily in the overall general decline. On a year-to-year basis, however, permit activity in the 199 cities exceeded its similar 1978 pace of $1,729,920,463 by 14 per cent.

During the full twelve months of 1979 building permits totalled $30,015,602,634 in the 200 largest cities, almost 18 per cent above the $25,466,047,087 sum for all of 1978. Houston led all other cities in cumulative 1979 figures, surpassing the $2 billion mark, followed by Los Angeles, New York, Dallas, and Chicago. Seattle, New York, Boston, and Atlanta saw aggregate 1979 increases ranging from 64.1 per cent to 116.6 per cent.

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2. DECEMBER BUILDING PERMIT VALUES

MONTHLY TOTAL OF BUILDING PERMITS IN 200 LARGEST CITIES
1976 - 1979

	1979	1978	1977	1976
January.....	$ 1,746,778,126	$ 1,555,200,317	$ 1,155,317,475	$ 1,094,555,899
February.....	1,717,789,184	1,566,122,444	1,346,506,159	1,017,644,026
March.....	2,476,939,618	2,181,040,038	1,831,077,441	1,298,836,652
April.....	2,451,179,009	1,970,502,609	1,670,684,353	1,418,036,240
May.....	2,777,967,467	2,184,409,484	1,848,109,958	1,359,299,738
June.....	2,773,160,539	3,175,380,926	2,112,508,861	1,513,262,913
July.....	2,680,322,050	2,374,622,719	1,786,583,619	1,391,463,324
August.....	2,986,549,135	2,096,290,105	1,983,733,131	1,622,806,467
September....	2,825,024,489	2,197,718,509	1,720,913,053	1,456,079,039
October.....	2,899,533,662	2,305,383,414	1,802,807,510	1,311,459,333
November.....	2,495,786,359	2,050,242,106	1,827,177,094	1,327,938,877
December.....	2,184,572,996	1,809,134,416	1,908,713,368	1,387,900,565
Total	$30,015,602,634	$25,466,047,087	$20,994,132,022	$16,199,283,073

R - Revised

Of the 200 cities included in this series the twenty-five with the largest building permit values for the twelve months of 1979 were:

(Millions of Dollars)

		Twelve Months 1979	% Change Previous Year
1.	Houston, Texas.....	2096.7	+ 29.9
2.	Los Angeles, California.....	1673.4	+ 19.1
3.	New York, New York.....	1276.1	+ 73.4
4.	Dallas, Texas.....	949.0	+ 15.6
5.	Chicago, Illinois.....	778.6	+ 17.0
6.	San Diego, California.....	709.2	- 0.2
7.	Phoenix, Arizona.....	703.2	+ 28.5
8.	San Francisco, California.....	623.9	+ 16.8
9.	Honolulu, Hawaii.....	567.0	+ 34.5
10.	Seattle, Washington.....	474.1	+ 64.1
11.	San Jose, California.....	452.0	+ 31.0
12.	Austin, Texas.....	447.5	+ 28.1
13.	Atlanta, Georgia.....	403.0	+ 116.6
14.	Columbus, Ohio.....	370.5	- 20.1
15.	San Antonio, Texas.....	359.2	+ 49.7
16.	Arlington, Texas.....	354.4	+ 21.9
17.	Fort Worth, Texas.....	341.7	+ 25.7
18.	Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.....	326.9	- 0.8
19.	Denver, Colorado.....	322.7	+ 13.7
20.	Boston, Massachusetts.....	313.1	+ 90.9
21.	Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.....	312.5	+ 4.2
22.	Indianapolis, Indiana.....	307.3	- 40.7
23.	Albuquerque, New Mexico.....	300.3	+ 6.7
24.	Sacramento, California.....	298.5	+ 49.0
25.	Virginia Beach, Virginia.....	290.9	+ 18.3

THE FOLLOWING TABLE GIVES MONTHLY BUILDING PERMIT VALUES FOR THE 200 LARGEST CITIES BY POPULATION AS RECORDED IN THE 1970 CENSUS. THE FIGURES REPRESENT ESTIMATED BUILDING COSTS UNDER PERMITS ISSUED TO PRESPECTIVE BUILDERS WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS FOR THE CITIES ENUMERATED. THEY INDLUDE NEW RESIDENTIAL AND NON-RESIDENTAIL BUILDINGS, AS WELL AS ADDITIONS, ALTERATIONS AND REPAIRS. LAND COSTS ARE NOT INCLUDED. THE DATA ARE COMPILED FROM REPORTS FURNISHED TO DUN & BRADSTREET BY THE BUILDING DEPARTMENTS OF THE VARIOUS CITIES.

RANK BY SIZE		DECEMBER 1979	TWELVE MONTHS 1979	TWELVE MONTHS 1978
1.	NEW YORK, NEW YORK*			
	MANHATTAN	201,302,147	846,834,631	431,589,114
	BRONX	4,119,900	87,200,918	65,594,265
	BROOKLYN	2,384,190	131,241,951	105,222,053
	QUEENS	2,986,600	110,743,869	56,079,418
	RICHMOND	2,148,030	100,042,789	77,336,653
	TOTAL NEW YORK CITY	212,941,067	1,276,064,158	735,821,503
2.	CHICAGO, ILLINIOS	71,631,992	778,637,154	665,438,879
3.	LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA	173,821,044	1,673,408,341	1,405,133,208
4.	PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA	8,743,527	326,947,033	329,676,733
5.	DETRIOT, MICHIGAN	7,849,104	192,873,609	160,360,990
6.	HOUSTON, TEXAS	119,693,319	2,096,703,894	1,614,347,081
7.	BALTIMORE, MARYLAND	16,997,908	237,009,923	276,533,465
8.	DALLAS, TEXAS	38,512,444	968,571,354	820,906,508
9.	WASHINGTON, D.C.	5,670,691	273,054,230	273,088,272
10.	CLEVELAND, OHIO	1,904,569	104,772,383	113,469,567
11.	INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA	10,410,545	387,265,248	518,446,716
12.	MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN	6,265,547	147,994,061	157,414,919
13.	SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA	30,904,190	623,917,130	534,189,533
14.	SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA	42,103,252	709,247,829	710,209,728
15.	SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS	21,694,316	359,190,462	239,899,350
16.	BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS	8,065,000	313,059,237	163,970,400
17.	MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE	13,340,081	209,647,087	196,189,741
18.	ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI	13,745,425	165,277,116	115,744,579
19.	NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA	5,718,407	267,077,122	189,387,578
20.	PHOENIX, ARIZONA	75,941,071	703,244,844	547,484,866
21.	COLUMBUS, OHIO	25,283,249	370,506,847	463,769,951
22.	SEATTLE, WASHINGTON	22,939,681	474,129,014	289,004,876
23.	JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA	10,729,989	240,484,515	226,210,132
24.	PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA	2,333,898	108,368,188	89,264,159
25.	DENVER, COLORADO	20,210,197	322,704,315	283,790,480
26.	KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI	18,372,689	214,206,023	179,584,875
27.	ATLANTA, GEORGIA	15,227,311	403,049,899	186,044,436
28.	BUFFALO, NEW YORK	4,019,903	31,452,748	46,689,001
29.	CINCINNATI, OHIO	12,618,883	231,732,828	151,612,774
30.	NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE	13,387,464	255,964,508	298,390,447
31.	SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA	28,164,913	451,979,106	345,123,202
32.	MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA	20,757,786	241,337,172	215,699,065
33.	FORT WORTH, TEXAS	25,732,456	341,661,542	271,789,488
34.	TOLEDO, OHIO	11,233,442	156,844,869	91,096,573
35.	PORTLAND, OREGON	20,974,280	238,065,851	237,159,010
36.	NEWARK, NEW JERSEY	430,925	27,010,123	68,797,941
37.	OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA	10,742,741	312,462,035	299,870,500
38.	OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA	39,020,444	165,379,264	137,678,577
39.	LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY	2,448,000	41,352,314	76,741,632
40.	LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA	8,028,422	117,544,639	82,434,500
41.	OMAHA, NEBRASKA	5,220,588	126,365,688	104,439,864
42.	MIAMI, FLORIDA	82,665,345	270,401,528	90,830,621
43.	TULSA, OKLAHOMA	24,483,406	287,114,878	424,009,909
44.	HONOLULU, HAWAII	76,855,323	566,991,017	421,691,907
45.	EL PASO, TEXAS	10,370,544	238,078,103	219,136,394
46.	ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA	19,151,664	158,250,366	140,612,294
47.	NORFOLK, VIRGINIA	2,422,069	69,471,060	46,889,537
48.	BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA	4,839,424	127,149,302	125,374,866
49.	ROCHESTER, NEW YORK	3,646,390	39,045,423	31,493,793
50.	TAMPA, FLORIDA	4,714,519	88,539,274	88,141,206
51.	WICHITA, KANSAS	5,948,820	184,066,878	126,764,375
52.	AKRON, OHIO	2,867,759	48,125,634	55,520,088
53.	TUCSON, ARIZONA	15,173,033	216,408,846	139,371,113
54.	JERSEY CITY, NEW JERSEY	676,707	28,007,560	12,672,407
55.	SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA	20,895,191	298,513,212	200,397,305
56.	AUSTIN, TEXAS	29,047,963	447,455,604	349,190,517
57.	RICHMOND, VIRGINIA	4,623,888	49,749,375	57,912,677
58.	ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO	10,456,066	300,253,562	281,343,993
59.	DAYTON, OHIO	5,325,242	88,377,210	44,590,961
60.	CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA	13,370,334	150,726,075	142,277,950
61.	ST. PETERSBURG, FLORIDA	7,591,445	101,758,578	73,231,965
62.	CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS	7,147,082	161,859,779	135,724,381
63.	YONKERS, NEW YORK	6,422,600	17,712,431	17,822,066
64.	DES MOINES, IOWA	1,370,149	93,093,432	61,361,371
65.	GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN	3,263,905	68,423,418	53,203,354
66.	SYRACUSE, NEW YORK	318,435	50,882,859	26,925,886
67.	FLINT, MICHIGAN	2,797,175	51,563,610	50,255,507
68.	MOBILE, ALABAMA	7,659,361	110,049,766	79,887,658
69.	SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA	4,461,518	116,389,970	204,919,738
70.	WARREN, MICHIGAN	186,041	7,575,710	14,076,489
71.	PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND	2,494,300	29,773,235	30,820,550
72.	FORT WAYNE, INDIANA	8,505,136	88,080,059	85,433,181
73.	WORCHESTER, MASSACHUSETTS	8,557,024	26,086,375	31,950,273
74.	SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH	13,933,820	193,941,051	97,286,321
75.	GARY, INDIANA	1,235,983	33,225,455	12,391,836
76.	KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE	4,092,069	85,392,177	128,303,190
77.	MADISON, WISCONSIN	7,924,080	76,613,246	72,683,787
78.	VIRGINIA BEACH, VIRGINIA	6,690,083	290,885,461	245,924,541
79.	SPOKANE, WASHINGTON	10,469,740	165,094,695	120,025,898
80.	KANSAS CITY, KANSAS	1,780,407	59,264,308	66,839,056
81.	ANAHEIM, CALIFORNIA	12,371,612	177,445,939	157,794,190
82.	FRESNO, CALIFORNIA	8,257,152	199,647,101	204,148,582
83.	BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA	13,612,237	192,209,333	168,997,938
84.	SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS	2,204,276	54,423,741	17,633,842
85.	HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT	5,723,701	65,709,366	45,168,387
86.	SANTA ANA, CALIFORNIA	5,222,997	84,183,940	113,444,108
87.	BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT	1,452,417	18,303,128	14,876,602
88.	TACOMA, WASHINGTON	7,790,254	133,266,344	79,300,755
89.	COLUMBUS, GEORGIA	3,756,504	49,816,253	60,185,526
90.	JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI	2,692,685	79,274,831	100,834,231
91.	LINCOLN, NEBRASKA	5,548,955	78,137,541	77,267,077
92.	LUBBOCK, TEXAS	7,330,786	104,584,750	131,237,907
93.	ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS	2,464,719	49,982,796	37,310,602
94.	PATERSON, NEW JERSEY	618,163	13,353,544	19,328,292
95.	GREENSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA	8,434,458	82,889,869	77,317,882
96.	RIVERSIDE, CALFIRONIA	3,773,243	84,010,064	47,498,918
97.	YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO	575,970	13,257,496	14,606,978
98.	FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA	2,871,225	98,552,690	63,528,318
99.	EVANSVILLE, INDIANA	1,058,472	30,575,912	42,802,530
100.	NEWPORT NEWS, VIRGINIA	4,406,782	60,985,842	37,615,467
101.	HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA	5,694,810	63,793,124	65,175,321
102.	NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT	4,650,152	24,409,975	24,558,441
103.	COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO	8,194,413	196,123,117	211,988,023
104.	TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA	5,383,890	45,020,515	39,292,370
105.	MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA	2,296,400	89,798,200	95,668,200
106.	WINSTON-SALEM, NO. CAR	1,300,460	77,371,281	81,038,928
107.	GLENDALE, CALIFORNIA	11,089,898	99,080,769	67,892,974
108.	LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS	16,012,482	132,699,393	91,626,151
109.	LANSING, MICHIGAN	5,199,761	62,226,376	38,219,050
110.	ERIE, PENNSYLVANIA	436,400	22,280,349	15,170,865
111.	AMARILLO, TEXAS	6,990,447	84,505,873	115,296,066
112.	PEORIA, ILLINOIS	2,048,200	48,431,932	58,985,226
113.	LAS VEGAS, NEVADA	10,497,894	207,756,129	169,696,878
114.	SOUTH BEND, INDIANA	1,013,980	44,097,162	27,725,792
115.	TOPEKA, KANSAS	2,178,699	52,801,788	44,080,160
116.	GARDEN GROVE, CALIFORNIA	862,650	42,991,985	59,487,535
117.	MACON, GEORGIA	2,841,700	70,773,741	38,345,746
118.	RALEIGH, NO. CAR	8,713,567	132,695,698	123,375,024
119.	HAMPTON, VIRGINIA	1,182,987	44,419,874	38,594,781
120.	SPRINGFIELD, MISSOURI	2,035,469	84,340,968	83,603,584
121.	CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE	2,978,657	72,617,913	82,178,405
122.	SAVANAH, GEORGIA	2,263,880	54,316,230	50,224,811
123.	BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA	1,190,621	30,228,445	22,566,713
124.	HUNTINGTON BEACH, CALIFORNIA	3,538,129	89,251,827	114,226,080
125.	BEAUMONT, TEXAS	7,061,353	78,397,299	93,760,251
126.	ALBANY, NEW YORK	1,612,070	21,031,949	14,791,568
127.	COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA	2,130,639	20,051,268	44,839,900
128.	PASADENA, CALIFORNIA	16,233,717	78,962,096	61,542,210
129.	ELIZABETH, NEW JERSEY	384,750	7,224,453	6,155,644
130.	INDEPENDENCE, MISSOURI	1,247,837	35,699,120	49,995,971
131.	PORTSMOUTH, VIRGINIA	1,358,667	26,125,949	23,502,233
132.	ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA	1,850,090	85,932,348	61,805,726
133.	CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA	12,912,699	72,963,187	65,557,510
134.	LIVONIA, MICHIGAN	1,290,076	101,517,277	72,631,846
135.	CANTON, OHIO	433,588	31,842,002	21,681,813
136.	ALLENTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA	252,394	21,572,123	23,862,385
137.	STAMFORD, CONNECTICUT	21,467,810	184,044,339	56,539,074
138.	LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY	2,904,656	133,057,923	143,769,718
139.	WATERBURY, CONNECTICUT	974,821	13,371,560	14,516,393
140.	HAMMOND, INDIANA	1,180,602	31,093,098	14,911,219
141.	STOCKTON, CALIFORNIA	14,899,402	189,227,293	181,916,414
142.	HOLLYWOOD, FLORIDA	55,566,220	169,281,588	90,338,412
143.	TRENTON, NEW JERSEY	178,113	5,657,852	6,474,535
144.	SAN BERNARDINO, CALIFORNIA	1,924,758	81,331,569	83,639,680
145.	DEARBORN, MICHIGAN	2,836,376	100,461,931	50,706,814
146.	SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA	961,507	10,885,313	15,005,295
147.	CAMDEN, NEW JERSEY	390,747	8,692,591	17,802,573
148.	HIALEAH, FLORIDA	492,624	41,896,561	26,782,886
149.	NEW BEDFORD, MASSACHUSETTS	4,974,004	20,331,999	8,386,886
150.	FREMONT, CALIFORNIA	18,180,900	175,512,300	160,508,000
151.	DULUTH, MINNESOTA	2,897,216	28,709,437	27,657,762
152.	CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS	1,665,135	31,215,208	43,386,329
153.	PARMA, OHIO	849,550	28,183,250	18,437,855
154.	ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN	4,378,324	40,258,229	42,700,770
155.	ORLANDO, FLORIDA	2,748,743	81,500,454	62,077,450
156.	DAVENPORT, IOWA	2,270,714	83,163,811	76,406,048
157.	WICHITA FALLS, TEXAS	2,957,190	131,560,322	45,604,127
158.	PUEBLO, COLORADO	566,913	32,667,896	37,461,419
159.	IRVING, TEXAS	4,220,076	108,363,917	80,103,682
160.	FALL RIVER, MASSACHUSETTS	291,800	16,771,924	4,160,221
161.	DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA	2,026,783	48,307,704	37,644,915
162.	SUNNYVALE, CALIFORNIA	26,902,097	134,398,362	121,350,634
163.	WACO, TEXAS	2,771,362	83,081,930	47,932,549
164.	RACINE, WISCONSIN	1,488,521	25,482,335	16,231,820
165.	LOWELL, MASSACHUSETTS	257,480	21,719,649	26,010,048
166.	HAYWARD, CALIFORNIA	9,795,720	90,378,981	76,386,458
167.	LAKEWOOD, COLORADO	4,509,396	70,111,594	69,647,778
168.	ROANOKE, VIRGINIA	741,530	34,215,687	26,202,012
169.	SAGINAW, MICHIGAN	66,386	10,921,259	19,596,635
170.	NORWALK, CALIFORNIA	339,390	8,410,820	16,772,320
171.	SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS	1,255,671	61,124,466	46,935,203
172.	UTICA, NEW YORK	302,849	8,153,958	11,107,875
173.	NEWTON, MASSACHUSETTS	741,999	15,367,194	17,033,065
174.	ARLINGTON, TEXAS	13,365,810	354,418,862	290,689,757
175.	DECATUR, ILLIONIS	2,415,890	29,220,245	49,421,892
176.	LYNN, MASSACHUSETTS	2,822,680	30,598,205	6,455,747
177.	INGLEWOOD, CALIFORNIA	2,190,950	21,177,175	16,289,402
178.	ABILENE, TEXAS	3,250,914	63,012,243	88,628,753
179.	CHESAPEAKE, VIRGINIA	1,841,845	77,334,756	63,209,425
180.	PASADENA, TEXAS	641,470	59,522,823	65,841,064
181.	BROCKTON, MASSACHUSETTS	370,873	14,224,882	16,643,097
182.	BURBANK, CALIFORNIA	7,350,002	67,421,550	40,879,247
183.	SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS	3,711,035	8,739,912	5,794,151
184.	DOWNEY, CALIFORNIA	1,578,627	23,896,033	20,944,891
185.	SANTA MONICA, CALIFORNIA	2,893,509	148,968,776	68,603,320
186.	ST. CLAIR SHORES, MICHIGAN	76,000	5,318,303	4,746,324
187.	QUINCY, MASSACHUSETTS	457,995	13,310,368	9,500,886
188.	GREEN BAY, WISCONSIN	4,043,753	59,678,164	40,364,149
189.	MANCHESTER, NEW HAMPSHIRE	2,564,835	35,070,900	36,210,586
190.	SANTA CLARA, CALIFORNIA	7,438,925	91,272,488	136,682,313
191.	READING, PENNSYLVANIA	511,107	9,428,111	12,720,517
192.	POMONA, CALIFORNIA	7,736,628	93,669,075	48,163,353
193.	MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA	1,281,653	41,470,892	35,710,203
194.	WESTLAND, MICHIGAN	1,249,504	17,977,068	23,254,638
195.	SIOUX CITY, IOWA	228,685	26,158,912	21,126,818
196.	FULLERTON, CALIFORNIA	8,581,801	63,197,458	92,748,895
197.	NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK	197,865	13,953,540	55,596,760
198.	KALAMAZOO, MICHIGAN	1,362,277	32,572,616	32,271,214
199.	ROYAL OAK, MICHIGAN	133,150	10,116,720	8,850,475
200.	PONTIAC, MICHIGAN	417,692	48,446,813	13,006,983
TOTALS:	200 LARGEST CITIES Listed Above	2,184,572,996	30,015,602,634	25,466,047,087

P = Preliminary
R = Revised